

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 2:50 AM
To: Colberg; Talis J (LAW); Mason; Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Fw: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family
Fyi

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 10:35:41 +0000
To: Sharon Leighow<sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
CC: K Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; M Nizich<mike.nizich@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Remind him of the family travels w me that I have personally pd for, including with mileage. Hopefully our records very clearly show that. Also, my return of every per diem offer for everything related to the kids...and we need to be proactive in this issue with reminding him of all the steps taken to save state monies like no Anchorage apartment...no chef... security down from 7 to 2, whatever- I'm sorry you have to deal w this w the FOIA even, I know I'm tired of it already. It is important to know though that probably a week doesn't go by without me asking if all the rules are being followed, if the Palin family is doing everything right with our travel, etc as First Family.

Another significant thing here, to me anyway, was the exclusion of my 17-yr old son (now 19) from all but two First Family events (he traveled to Juneau twice is all in these two yrs and I think I ended up paying for one of the trips myself), I was told it was because he wasn't going to school in Juneau, which never made much sense to me but I didn't argue the fact he is a member of the family too.

Pls show the travels of the previous Govs so he can compare- incl the fact previous Govs took family vacations WITH our security guys so they could take advantage of their rental cars, etc (this is according to Bob and Gary), compare that to me never having done this. We have to be proactive on this so pls let me know if you need any further info.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:59:38 -0800
To: ExternalEmailgsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Governor-

Linda Perez and I both spoke with Kyle today. He has filed a public records request for all of your travel and your family's travel. He is really digging into the travel regs. He wants to know where it is spelled out where/when a family member can travel. I told him AGAIN that there is a certain expectation that the First Family make public appearances and participate in community activities as part of protocol. I am blue in the face with this guy! I told him that the Governor receives on average 200 requests each month and more than half extend

9/18/2009

the invitation to the First Family. I also reminded him that you prefer to travel by car and the kids aren't always with you. Somehow I don't think that will make it in the paper.

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 3:36 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

I have not been informed of any phone calls to my office. Do u know if I am to return any calls or do anything on this? I sure hope nothing is written that we have to react to, based on adn having misinformation or not enough info.

BTW, this trip I'm taking to NGA with family is being paid by NGA because it's some annual family-invitation event for the nation's governors. I'm right on that, am I, Kris?

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:12:21 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: FW: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Dear Governor Palin,

I just spoke with Mr. Nizich after I forwarded this to him. He said I should go ahead and let you know directly. He says your office has also received phone inquiries on travel in the last 24 hours from the ADN as well. This is just to give you a fuller picture of what may be happening in the news world. Talis

From: Bockmon, Julia B (LAW)
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 1:47 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Cc: Jones, David T (LAW)
Subject: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family
Importance: High

CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

I just returned a phone call from Kyle Hopkins of the Anchorage Daily News who initially was looking for a copy of the 2004 opinion addressing travel on the King Air aircraft. He had located the opinion online just as I called back. He then said he was looking into the question of when a governor's family could travel at state expense and asked whether there was any other opinion on this issue. I advised generally that a family member might travel at state expense if the member was to attend an official function (he said for example the inauguration), and that I could not recall other opinion or guidance on this point.

He then wanted to know whether there was a statute, regulation or other guidance defining what would be an official function or state business. I advised that I was not aware of any. It would likely depend on the circumstance and the involved official's authority. He also asked who would decide and I suggested again it would likely be addressed in the circumstances on a case by case basis by the governor's office.

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020547

He did not say or suggest whether he is looking at the question with respect to Governor Palin or a former governor.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Judy Bockmon

Assistant Attorney General

Opinions, Appeals & Ethics Section

Alaska Department of Law

907-269-5216

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attachments may contain information considered confidential under the Executive Branch Ethics Act. If you are not an identified recipient or believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately.

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020548

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 2:36 AM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Remind him of the family travels w me that I have personally pd for, including with mileage. Hopefully our records very clearly show that. Also, my return of every per diem offer for everything related to the kids...and we need to be proactive in this issue with reminding him of all the steps taken to save state monies like no Anchorage apartment...no chef... security down from 7 to 2, whatever- I'm sorry you have to deal w this w the FOIA even, I know I'm tired of it already. It is important to know though that probably a week doesn't go by without me asking if all the rules are being followed, if the Palin family is doing everything right with our travel, etc as First Family.

Another significant thing here, to me anyway, was the exclusion of my 17-yr old son (now 19) from all but two First Family events (he traveled to Juneau twice is all in these two yrs and I think I ended up paying for one of the trips myself), I was told it was because he wasn't going to school in Juneau, which never made much sense to me but I didn't argue the fact he is a member of the family too.

Pls show the travels of the previous Govs so he can compare- incl the fact previous Govs took family vacations WITH our security guys so they could take advantage of their rental cars, etc (this is according to Bob and Gary), compare that to me never having done this. We have to be proactive on this so pls let me know if you need any further info.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:59:38 -0800
To: ExternalEmailsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Governor-

Linda Perez and I both spoke with Kyle today. He has filed a public records request for all of your travel and your family's travel. He is really digging into the travel regs. He wants to know where it is spelled out where/when a family member can travel. I told him AGAIN that there is a certain expectation that the First Family make public appearances and participate in community activities as part of protocol. I am blue in the face with this guy! I told him that the Governor receives on average 200 requests each month and more than half extend the invitation to the First Family. I also reminded him that you prefer to travel by car and the kids aren't always with you. Somehow I don't think that will make it in the paper.

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 3:36 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

9/18/2009

Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

I have not been informed of any phone calls to my office. Do u know if I am to return any calls or do anything on this? I sure hope nothing is written that we have to react to, based on adn having misinformation or not enough info.

BTW, this trip I'm taking to NGA with family is being paid by NGA because it's some annual family-invitation event for the nation's governors. I'm right on that, am I, Kris?

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:12:21 -0800

To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Subject: FW: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Dear Governor Palin,

I just spoke with Mr. Nizich after I forwarded this to him. He said I should go ahead and let you know directly. He says your office has also received phone inquiries on travel in the last 24 hours from the ADN as well. This is just to give you a fuller picture of what may be happening in the news world. Talis

From: Bockmon, Julia B (LAW)

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 1:47 PM

To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)

Cc: Jones, David T (LAW)

Subject: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Importance: High

CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

I just returned a phone call from Kyle Hopkins of the Anchorage Daily News who initially was looking for a copy of the 2004 opinion addressing travel on the King Air aircraft. He had located the opinion online just as I called back. He then said he was looking into the question of when a governor's family could travel at state expense and asked whether there was any other opinion on this issue. I advised generally that a family member might travel at state expense if the member was to attend an official function (he said for example the inauguration), and that I could not recall other opinion or guidance on this point.

He then wanted to know whether there was a statute, regulation or other guidance defining what would be an official function or state business. I advised that I was not aware of any. It would likely depend on the circumstance and the involved official's authority. He also asked who would decide and I suggested again it would likely be addressed in the circumstances on a case by case basis by the governor's office.

He did not say or suggest whether he is looking at the question with respect to Governor Palin or a former governor.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Judy Bockmon

Assistant Attorney General

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020550

Opinions, Appeals & Ethics Section

Alaska Department of Law

907-269-5216

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attachments may contain information considered confidential under the Executive Branch Ethics Act. If you are not an identified recipient or believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately.

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020551

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 5:58 AM
To: Balash; Joseph R (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Hickel

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "Balash, Joseph R (GOV)" <joe.balash@alaska.gov>
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 05:47:38 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
<mike.nizich@alaska.gov>; Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)<sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Hickel

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

David Gottstein did write you a letter that Pat and Tom received yesterday, but I forgot to ask them to forward it to me last night. I will get it this morning and send it to you...or at least a summary.

Oh, and John Cowdery made an appearance in Juneau yesterday, but after the news last night checked himself into the local hospital.

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Balash, Joseph R (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Sent: Thu Jul 10 02:16:56 2008
Subject: Re: Hickel

Joe:

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

----- Original Message -----

From: Joe Balash
To: Governor Sarah Palin
Cc: K Perry
Cc: M Nizich
Sent: Jul 9, 2008 11:22 PM
Subject: Hickel

Governor,

Later today (10:00 am AK time), governor hickel is going to hold a press availability and come out strong against

9/18/2009

awarding a license to transcanada. Backbone is split with most folks on Gottstein's side (and ours).

I imagine we will be pressed by media outlets for a response. Is there anything in particular you would like to convey? I think the story is going to be overshadowed, but we likely can't ignore it. Short and sweet ought to do.

Joe

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020553

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 3:03 AM
To: Hughes; Rosanne D (GOV)
Subject: From Kris Fw: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family
Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 02:54:02 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>; Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
CC: Nizich, Michael A (GOV) <mike.nizich@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Hopefully we can provide information in being proactive to show what other Governor's travel has been and w/family. Remember that story not long ago that compared and showed the large difference between Palin and Murkowski? This is so ridiculous. We're talking about a Governor who had the state buy tickets on hotwire saving hundreds of dollars rather than just going w/the norm (much more expensive) or the fact that she often drives to the Peninsula or Fairbanks or the fact that her family rarely travels w/her when most of the invitations are for first family. Not to mention the majority of the time she flies commercial (and not first class!!)

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Sent: Thu Jul 10 02:35:41 2008
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Remind him of the family travels w me that I have personally pd for, including with mileage. Hopefully our records very clearly show that. Also, my return of every per diem offer for everything related to the kids...and we need to be proactive in this issue with reminding him of all the steps taken to save state monies like no Anchorage apartment...no chef... security down from 7 to 2, whatever- I'm sorry you have to deal w this w the FOIA even, I know I'm tired of it already. It is important to know though that probably a week doesn't go by without me asking if all the rules are being followed, if the Palin family is doing everything right with our travel, etc as First Family. Another significant thing here, to me anyway, was the exclusion of my 17-yr old son (now 19) from all but two First Family events (he traveled to Juneau twice is all in these two yrs and I think I ended up paying for one of the trips myself), I was told it was because he wasn't going to school in Juneau, which never made much sense to me but I didn't argue the fact he is a member of the family too. Pls show the travels of the previous Govs so he can compare- incl the fact previous Govs took family vacations WITH our security guys so they could take advantage of their rental cars, etc (this is according to Bob and Gary), compare that to me never having done this. We have to be proactive on this so pls let me know if you need any further info.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:59:38 -0800
To: ExternalEmailsp <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Governor-

9/18/2009

Linda Perez and I both spoke with Kyle today. He has filed a public records request for all of your travel and your family's travel. He is really digging into the travel regs. He wants to know where it is spelled out where/when a family member can travel. I told him AGAIN that there is a certain expectation that the First Family make public appearances and participate in community activities as part of protocol. I am blue in the face with this guy! I told him that the Governor receives on average 200 requests each month and more than half extend the invitation to the First Family. I also reminded him that you prefer to travel by car and the kids aren't always with you. Somehow I don't think that will make it in the paper.

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 3:36 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

I have not been informed of any phone calls to my office. Do u know if I am to return any calls or do anything on this? I sure hope nothing is written that we have to react to, based on adn having misinformation or not enough info. BTW, this trip I'm taking to NGA with family is being paid by NGA because it's some annual family-invitation event for the nation's governors. I'm right on that, am I, Kris?

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:12:21 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: FW: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Dear Governor Palin,

I just spoke with Mr. Nizich after I forwarded this to him. He said I should go ahead and let you know directly. He says your office has also received phone inquiries on travel in the last 24 hours from the ADN as well. This is just to give you a fuller picture of what may be happening in the news world. Talis

From: Bockmon, Julia B (LAW)
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 1:47 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Cc: Jones, David T (LAW)
Subject: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family
Importance: High

CONFIDENTIAL – ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

I just returned a phone call from Kyle Hopkins of the Anchorage Daily News who initially was looking for a copy of the 2004 opinion addressing travel on the King Air aircraft. He had located the opinion online just as I called back. He then said he was looking into the question of when a governor's family could travel at state expense and asked whether there was any other opinion on this issue. I advised generally that a family member might travel at state expense if the member was to attend an official function (he said for example the inauguration), and that I could not recall other opinion or guidance on this point.

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020555

He then wanted to know whether there was a statute, regulation or other guidance defining what would be an official function or state business. I advised that I was not aware of any. It would likely depend on the circumstance and the involved official's authority. He also asked who would decide and I suggested again it would likely be addressed in the circumstances on a case by case basis by the governor's office.

He did not say or suggest whether he is looking at the question with respect to Governor Palin or a former governor.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Judy Bockmon

Assistant Attorney General

Opinions, Appeals & Ethics Section

Alaska Department of Law

907-269-5216

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attachments may contain information considered confidential under the Executive Branch Ethics Act. If you are not an identified recipient or believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately.

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020556

Unknown

From: Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=RHUGHES]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 9:16 AM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Fw: Daily News blog: USA v. Cowdery

----- Original Message -----

From: Christopher Clark <cgcalaska@yahoo.com>
To: Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV)
Sent: Thu Jul 10 09:08:03 2008
Subject: Daily News blog: USA v. Cowdery

USA v. Cowdery

Posted by Alaska_Politics

Posted: July 10, 2008 - 8:36 am

From Kyle Hopkins in Anchorage --

A criminal case just appeared in federal court:

USA v. John Cowdery

Legislators are gathered in Juneau for a special session on a possible natural gas pipeline. Cowdery was at the hearing Wednesday but hasn't appeared this morning. His office is dark and locked, but so are a lot of other legislative offices. Not all lawmakers brought staff members to the special session.

Cowdery: AP Photo/Chris Miller
<http://community.adn.com/sites/community.adn.com/files/images/Scandal%20Cowdery_010408.preview.JPG> Cowdery: AP Photo/Chris Miller

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 11:03 AM
To: Sarah Palin
Cc: Janice Mason; Joseph Balash; Kevin Banks; Kris Perry; Marty Rutherford; Mike Nizich; Rosanne (GOV sponsored) Hughes; Sharon W (GOV) Leighow; Tom Irwin; Russ Kelly; Pat Galvin
Subject: Congressman Boehner/Speaker Pelosi

Russ Kelly and I have made several calls to Capitol Hill, including to the offices of Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader Boehner. The Democrat's energy legislation is not yet available. It may be tomorrow or early next week. The bill itself will probably not be introduced until Wednesday.

So, my earlier critique will have to suffice for the moment. Mr. Boehner's staff analyzes the announced components pretty much as I have - a public relations exercise but not much substance.

Mr. Boehner is leading a small entourage of House Republicans to ANWR in the same timeframe as the so-called Republican Challengers trip. Arctic Power is concerned about possible overlap, not something any of us can control.

Mr. Boehner has not discussed the trip publicly, but I'm trying to get more information from his staff. I think it would be good if we can get you and him together, assuming your schedule permits.

8/31/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020558

Unknown

From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SWLEIGHOW]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 2:26 PM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: CSPAN on Sunday

CSPAN's Washington Journal would like to interview you on Sunday morning. The topics include National Governor's Association conference and energy issues. The segment would last 5-7 minutes and includes phone calls. Show runs in segments of 7:30-8 or 8-8:30. Please let me know if you would like me to pursue this.

Also, if time permits tomorrow, Jen Murphy from the Wall Street Journal magazine would like 10 minutes with you regarding diet and exercise. She can be reached at 212-642-1987.

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

8/31/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020559

Unknown

From: John Katz [jwkatz@ALASKADC.org]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 11:56 AM
To: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Cc: Janice Mason; Joe Balash; Kevin Banks; K Perry; Marty Rutherford; M Nizich; patrick.galvin@alaska.gov; Rosanne Hughes; Sharon Leighow; Tom Irwin; Russ Kelly
Subject: Re: Congressman Boehner/Speaker Pelosi

I know that Janice is working with Arctic Power on the Republican Challengers trip, and I'll leave that part to her.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

We just met with Conoco and BP on other matters. They haven't been consulted on Speaker Pelosi's energy legislation either but are quite skeptical that it will add much that is beneficial. I think we're in the middle of a war of press releases designed to appeal to the minds and hearts of Americans before the August Congressional recess.

John W. Katz

*Director of State/Federal Relations
 and Special Counsel to the Governor
 jwkatz@alaskadc.org
 (202)624-5858*

>>> On 7/10/2008 at 3:10 PM, in message <1315592855-1215717085-cardhu_decombobulator_blackberry.rim.net-1530070308-@bx184.bisx.prod.on.blackberry>, <gov.sarah@yahoo.com> wrote:

I'd like to travel w whomever ends up visiting anwr. Hopefully that can work out w one or the other of the groups and individuals going up north. Don't know if schedules mesh though.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 15:02:55 -0400
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Janice Mason<janice.mason@alaska.gov>; Joseph Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kevin Banks<kevin.banks@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Marty Rutherford<marty.rutherford@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Rosanne (GOV sponsored) Hughes<rosanne.hughes@alaska.gov>; Sharon W (GOV) Leighow<sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>; Tom Irwin<tom.irwin@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>; Pat Galvin<patrick_galvin@dnr.state.ak.us>
Subject: Congressman Boehner/Speaker Pelosi

Russ Kelly and I have made several calls to Capitol Hill, including = to the offices of Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader Boehner. The = Democrat's energy legislation is not yet available. It may be = tomorrow or early next week. The bill itself will probably not be = introduced until Wednesday.

8/25/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020560

So, my earlier critique will have to suffice for the moment. = Mr. Boehner's staff analyzes the announced components pretty much as I = have - a public relations exercise but not much substance.

Mr. Boehner is leading a small entourage of House Republicans to ANWR = in the same timeframe as the so-called Republican Challengers trip. = Arctic Power is concerned about possible overlap, not something any of us = can control.

Mr. Boehner has not discussed the trip publicly, but I'm trying to = get more information from his staff. I think it would be good if we = can get you and him together, assuming your schedule permits. =

8/25/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020561

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 7:51 AM
To: 'garyhondel@yahoo.com'
Subject: RE: Other

Thank you for writing to Alaska Governor Sarah Palin. The concerns, opinions, and/or information you have sent are important and valuable to the Governor. Although she is unable to respond to each and every email herself, your message has been received and is being reviewed by the appropriate staff person in this office who can best address your need, suggestion, or comment.

-----Original Message-----

From: WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov [mailto:WebMail@govweb.alaska.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 2:58 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: Other

Web mail from: Mr. Gary Hondel
address: 367 W. Beluga Ave. Soldotna AK 99669
907-953-5736

MESSAGE:

(Attn. Sharon Leighow-sorry, I couldn't locate her contact info))

Hi Sharon!

I just returned to Kenai from Florida where I had been for the last four years. I was pleased to hear that you were appointed Governor Palin's Press Secretary! Congrats! We worked together for a short time at KFQD. I'm sure that you may not remember me. I was in sales briefly and I would hang out in the newsroom and talk with you, Eric Nelson, and Kathy Phillips from time to time. This was back in about 1999 or 2000. Anyways, I just wanted to drop you a line. I'm working for K-Bay/KPEN Radio down in Kenai right now. If you ever need a resource or anything else down here on the peninsula, just let me know! Take care!

Sincerely,

Gary Hondel

garyhondel@yahoo.com

garyhondel@yahoo.com

Unknown

From: Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=RHUGHES]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 7:07 AM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Re: From Kris Fw: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travelforgovernor'sfamily

It is ridiculous. Let me know if I can help. Ps the Today show just said another AK leggie is being indicted. They haven't said which one yet.

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Hughes, Rosanne D (GOV)
Sent: Thu Jul 10 03:03:19 2008
Subject: From Kris Fw: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travelforgovernor'sfamily

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

From: "Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)" <kris.perry@alaska.gov>
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 02:54:02 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>; Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
CC: Nizich, Michael A (GOV) <mike.nizich@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel forgovernor'sfamily

Hopefully we can provide information in being proactive to show what other Governor's travel has been and w/family. Remember that story not long ago that compared and showed the large difference between Palin and Murkowski? This is so ridiculous. We're talking about a Governor who had the state buy tickets on hotwire saving hundreds of dollars rather than just going w/the norm (much more expensive) or the fact that she often drives to the Peninsula or Fairbanks or the fact that her family rarely travels w/her when most of the invitations are for first family. Not to mention the majority of the time she flies commercial (and not first class!!)

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)

Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

Sent: Thu Jul 10 02:35:41 2008

Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Remind him of the family travels w me that I have personally pd for, including with mileage. Hopefully our records very clearly show that. Also, my return of every per diem offer for everything related to the kids...and we need to be proactive in this issue with reminding him of all the steps taken to save state monies like no Anchorage apartment...no chef... security down from 7 to 2, whatever- I'm sorry you have to deal w this w the FOIA even, I know I'm tired of it already. It is important to know though that probably a week doesn't go by without me asking if all the rules are being followed, if the Palin family is doing everything right with our travel, etc as First Family.

Another significant thing here, to me anyway, was the exclusion of my 17-yr old son (now 19) from all but two First Family events (he traveled to Juneau twice is all in these two yrs and I think I ended up paying for one of the trips myself), I was told it was because he wasn't going to school in Juneau, which never made much sense to me but I didn't argue the fact he is a member of the family too.

Pls show the travels of the previous Govs so he can compare- incl the fact previous Govs took family vacations WITH our security guys so they could take advantage of their rental cars, etc (this is according to Bob and Gary), compare that to me never having done this.

We have to be proactive on this so pls let me know if you need any further info.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:59:38 -0800

To: ExternalEmailgsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Subject: RE: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Governor-

Linda Perez and I both spoke with Kyle today. He has filed a public records request for all of your travel and your family's travel. He is really digging into the travel regs. He wants to know where it is spelled out where/when a family member can travel. I told him AGAIN that there is a certain expectation that the First Family make public appearances and participate in community activities as part of protocol. I am blue in the face with this guy! I told him that the Governor receives on average 200 requests each month and more than half extend the invitation to the First Family. I also reminded him that you

prefer to travel by car and the kids aren't always with you. Somehow I don't think that will make it in the paper.

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 3:36 PM

To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)

Cc: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)

Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

I have not been informed of any phone calls to my office. Do u know if I am to return any calls or do anything on this? I sure hope nothing is written that we have to react to, based on adn having misinformation or not enough info.

BTW, this trip I'm taking to NGA with family is being paid by NGA because it's some annual family-invitation event for the nation's governors. I'm right on that, am I, Kris?

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:12:21 -0800

To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Subject: FW: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Dear Governor Palin,

I just spoke with Mr. Nizich after I forwarded this to him. He said I should go ahead and let you know directly. He says your office has also received phone inquiries on travel in the last 24 hours from the ADN as well. This is just to give you a fuller picture of what may be happening in the news world. Talis

From: Bockmon, Julia B (LAW)

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 1:47 PM

To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)

Cc: Jones, David T (LAW)

Subject: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Importance: High

CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

I just returned a phone call from Kyle Hopkins of the Anchorage Daily News who initially was looking for a copy of the 2004 opinion addressing travel on the King Air aircraft. He had located the opinion online just as I called back. He then said he was looking into the question of when a governor's family could travel at state expense and asked whether there was any other opinion on this issue. I advised generally that a family member might travel at state expense if the member was to attend an official function (he said for example the inauguration), and that I could not recall other opinion or guidance on this point.

He then wanted to know whether there was a statute, regulation or other guidance defining what would be an official function or state business. I advised that I was not aware of any. It would likely depend on the circumstance and the involved official's authority. He also asked who would decide and I suggested again it would likely be addressed in the circumstances on a case by case basis by the governor's office.

He did not say or suggest whether he is looking at the question with respect to Governor Palin or a former governor.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Judy Bockmon

Assistant Attorney General

Opinions, Appeals & Ethics Section

Alaska Department of Law

907-269-5216

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attachments may contain information considered confidential under the Executive Branch Ethics Act. If you are not an identified recipient or believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately.

Unknown

From: Colberg, Talis J (LAW) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=TJCOLBERG]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 6:59 AM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel forgovernor'sfamily

Dear governor palin. I am not sure if you get the adn where you are but there are two stories today related to you and travel. One about who pays for your family travel on some trips and the other about you and a car accident. In some ways I think the fender bender story offsets some of the questions raised in the piper story. Take care. TALIS.

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Sent: Thu Jul 10 02:50:23 2008
Subject: Fw: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel forgovernor'sfamily

Fyi

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 10:35:41 +0000
To: Sharon Leighow<sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
CC: K Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; M Nizich<mike.nizich@alaska.gov>
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel forgovernor'sfamily

Remind him of the family travels w me that I have personally pd for, including with mileage. Hopefully our records very clearly show that. Also, my return of every per diem offer for everything related to the kids...and we need to be proactive in this issue with reminding him of all the steps taken to save state monies like no Anchorage apartment...no chef... security down from 7 to 2, whatever- I'm sorry you have to deal w this w the FOIA even, I know I'm tired of it already. It is important to know though that probably a week doesn't go by without me asking if all the rules are being followed, if the Palin family is doing everything right with our travel, etc as First Family.

Another significant thing here, to me anyway, was the exclusion of my 17-yr old son (now 19) from all but two First Family events (he traveled to Juneau twice is all in these two

yrs and I think I ended up paying for one of the trips myself), I was told it was because he wasn't going to school in Juneau, which never made much sense to me but I didn't argue the fact he is a member of the family too.

Pls show the travels of the previous Govs so he can compare- incl the fact previous Govs took family vacations WITH our security guys so they could take advantage of their rental cars, etc (this is according to Bob and Gary), compare that to me never having done this.

We have to be proactive on this so pls let me know if you need any further info.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:59:38 -0800

To: ExternalEmailgsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Subject: RE: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor'sfamily

Governor-

Linda Perez and I both spoke with Kyle today. He has filed a public records request for all of your travel and your family's travel. He is really digging into the travel regs. He wants to know where it is spelled out where/when a family member can travel. I told him AGAIN that there is a certain expectation that the First Family make public appearances and participate in community activities as part of protocol. I am blue in the face with this guy! I told him that the Governor receives on average 200 requests each month and more than half extend the invitation to the First Family. I also reminded him that you prefer to travel by car and the kids aren't always with you. Somehow I don't think that will make it in the paper.

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 3:36 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

I have not been informed of any phone calls to my office. Do u know if I am to return any calls or do anything on this? I sure hope nothing is written that we have to react to, based on adn having misinformation or not enough info.

BTW, this trip I'm taking to NGA with family is being paid by NGA because it's some annual family-invitation event for the nation's governors. I'm right on that, am I, Kris?

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:12:21 -0800
To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: FW: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Dear Governor Palin,

I just spoke with Mr. Nizich after I forwarded this to him. He said I should go ahead and let you know directly. He says your office has also received phone inquiries on travel in the last 24 hours from the ADN as well. This is just to give you a fuller picture of what may be happening in the news world. Talis

From: Bockmon, Julia B (LAW)
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 1:47 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)
Cc: Jones, David T (LAW)
Subject: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Importance: High

CONFIDENTIAL -- ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

I just returned a phone call from Kyle Hopkins of the Anchorage Daily News who initially was looking for a copy of the 2004 opinion addressing travel on the King Air aircraft. He had located the opinion online just as I called back. He then said he was looking into the question of when a governor's family could travel at state expense and asked whether there was any other opinion on this issue. I advised generally that a family member might travel at state expense if the member was to attend an official function (he said for example the inauguration), and that I could not recall other opinion or guidance on this point.

He then wanted to know whether there was a statute, regulation or other guidance defining what would be an official function or state business. I advised that I was not aware of any. It would likely depend on the circumstance and the involved official's authority. He also asked who would decide and I suggested again it would likely be addressed in the circumstances on a case by case basis by the governor's office.

He did not say or suggest whether he is looking at the question with respect to Governor Palin or a former governor.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Judy Bockmon

Assistant Attorney General

Opinions, Appeals & Ethics Section

Alaska Department of Law

907-269-5216

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attachments may contain information considered confidential under the Executive Branch Ethics Act. If you are not an identified recipient or believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately.

Unknown

From: Balash, Joseph R (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=JRBALASH]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 5:48 AM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Hickel

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

David Gottstein did write you a letter that Pat and Tom received yesterday, but I forgot to ask them to forward it to me last night. I will get it this morning and send it to you...or at least a summary.

Oh, and John Cowdery made an appearance in Juneau yesterday, but after the news last night checked himself into the local hospital.

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Balash, Joseph R (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich, Michael A (GOV); Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Sent: Thu Jul 10 02:16:56 2008
Subject: Re: Hickel

Joe:

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Balash
To: Governor Sarah Palin
Cc: K Perry

Cc: M Nizich

Sent: Jul 9, 2008 11:22 PM

Subject: Hickel

Governor,

Later today (10:00 am AK time), governor hickel is going to hold a press availability and come out strong against awarding a license to transcanada. Backbone is split with most folks on Gottstein's side (and ours).

I imagine we will be pressed by media outlets for a response. Is there anything in particular you would like to convey? I think the story is going to be overshadowed, but we likely can't ignore it. Short and sweet ought to do.

Joe

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 11:08 AM
To: Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)
Subject: Re: Statement - Cowdery

Sounds good thanks for working w Kris on this! Good to go.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 10:59:29 -0800
To: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: Statement - Cowdery

Governor Palin Releases Statement on Cowdery Indictment

July 10, 2008, Anchorage, Alaska -Governor Sarah Plain today released the following statement regarding the indictment against state Senator John Cowdery:

"It was disturbing to learn that another public official has been charged with violating the public trust. I urge Senator Cowdery to step down for the good of the state.

"Today's news is a good reminder that we must continue to be vigilant in defending Alaska's sovereignty against those who would undermine it in an attempt to sell out Alaskans. As we move forward, let me remind everyone that this administration is committed to putting Alaskans and their interests first, as we develop our resources in a responsible and ethical manner.

"We are on the right path. I am confident that path will be made more clear and obstacle-free as justice prevails in the ongoing FBI investigation. Like many Alaskans, I look forward to closure on this disturbing chapter in our state's history."

###

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020575

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 11:11 AM
To: Katz; John W (GOV)
Cc: Mason; Janice L (GOV); Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Banks; Kevin R (DNR); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Rutherford; Marty K (DNR); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Hughes; Rosanne D (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Irwin; Tom E (DNR); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR)
Subject: Re: Congressman Boehner/Speaker Pelosi

I'd like to travel w whomever ends up visiting anwr. Hopefully that can work out w one or the other of the groups and individuals going up north. Don't know if schedules mesh though.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>
Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 15:02:55 -0400
To: Sarah Palin<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
CC: Janice Mason<janice.mason@alaska.gov>; Joseph Balash<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kevin Banks<kevin.banks@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Marty Rutherford<marty.rutherford@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Rosanne (GOV sponsored) Hughes<rosanne.hughes@alaska.gov>; Sharon W (GOV) Leighow<sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>; Tom Irwin<tom.irwin@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>; Pat Galvin<patrick_galvin@dnr.state.ak.us>
Subject: Congressman Boehner/Speaker Pelosi

Russ Kelly and I have made several calls to Capitol Hill, including = to the offices of Speaker Pelosi and Minority Leader Boehner. The = Democrat's energy legislation is not yet available. It may be = tomorrow or early next week. The bill itself will probably not be = introduced until Wednesday.

So, my earlier critique will have to suffice for the moment. = Mr. Boehner's staff analyzes the announced components pretty much as I = have - a public relations exercise but not much substance.

Mr. Boehner is leading a small entourage of House Republicans to ANWR = in the same timeframe as the so-called Republican Challengers trip. = Arctic Power is concerned about possible overlap, not something any of us = can control.

Mr. Boehner has not discussed the trip publicly, but I'm trying to = get more information from his staff. I think it would be good if we = can get you and him together, assuming your schedule permits. =

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020576

Unknown

From: Nizich, Michael A (GOV) [mike.nizich@alaska.gov]

Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 10:42 AM

To: gov.palin@yahoo.com; Perry, Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Deputy Commissioner at F&G

Denby must be talking to folks about this up coming vacancy.

I had a visit from the Alaska Outdoor Council reps this morning they are 100% in favor of bring someone new from the outside into the Deputy Commissioner position at F&G and applaud you for thinking this way. They are slightly concerned about Cory if he is the choice but also indicated that they could work with him because he has the same goal in mind as they do as an organization. They would hope that Cory, if chosen for the job, would establish a rapport with them as soon as he came on board to get a dialog going. They were excited about the prospect of turn the ship around at the department and (their words) "It would be great to finally have someone at F&G that can manage the resource and not the people". They also indicated that having some turn over within the department is not a bad thing and look forward to that happening. They stated that maybe we can finally bring in some new young talented biologist's from our state and other western states to help turn things around. They liked my idea about changing the name of Division of Wildlife Management back to the Division of Game.

Hope you are having a good day.

Mike

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020577

Unknown

From: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored) [governor@alaska.gov]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 12:17 PM
To: Smith; Lynne M (GOV)
Subject: FW: July: Chamber Tackles Energy Crisis

From: membership@uschamber.com [mailto:membership@uschamber.com]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 12:00 PM
To: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)
Subject: July: Chamber Tackles Energy Crisis

View this online.
http://www.uschamber.info/notice-description.tcl?newsletter_id=27735410

July 2008

uschamber.com

FIGHTING FOR YOUR BUSINESS

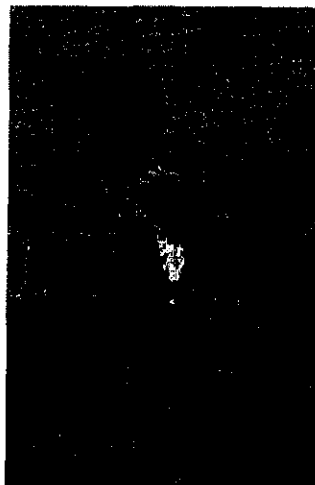
Chamber Tackles Energy Crisis

Outlines 13 Principles for Change

Against a backdrop of soaring energy prices and a vigorous debate on climate change policy, the U.S. Chamber is working to focus the nation's attention on expanding domestic energy supplies while constructively addressing the issue of carbon emissions.

The Chamber and its Institute for 21st Century Energy have taken a major step forward by unveiling 13 key principles necessary for creating a new, affordable, and reliable energy future for the country. A bipartisan group of former administration officials and policymakers are expected to endorse the key principles at a July 16 event.

Read more.



Featured Articles

In Your Corner: Advancing the Climate Change Debate

Last month the Senate, in one of the most important votes of the year, rejected the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2008, commonly known as Lieberman-Warner. Consumers, workers, and businesses can all breathe a collective sigh of relief.

Read more.

Fixing America's Crumbling Infrastructure

Featured Benefit

Build Your Business With From Monster

Hiring employees can be a prospect. There are a lot of things to consider, and be responsible for others' lives can be daunting. But in to competitive marketplace, biggest advantage may be building a bigger, better to Learn how to hire smart with Monster's help.

Check out the articles and available online to Chamber members.

Benefits Guide



Quick Poll

Results Are In!

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020578

America's infrastructure--the transportation, energy, and telecommunications networks that constitute the physical platform of our economy--is showing its age. Without proper investment in these networks, the nation's economy, job-producing ability, and competitiveness are seriously threatened. [Read more.](#)

ECON 101: Recession Watch

While more and more economists are coming to the conclusion that our current economic slowdown may not officially qualify as one, some billionaire investors are still convinced that we are already in one. And a former Fed chairman recently bridged the gap by saying that the chances are better than 50% that we will still fall into one, if we aren't already there. [Read more.](#)

Small Business Matters: Tapping Public Training Funds

Competing, and ultimately winning, in a worldwide economy is a goal of every successful businessperson, and a well-educated and well-trained workforce is necessary to achieve that goal. Government resources for training and development are available at the federal, state, and local levels. Here are some resources to help you. [Read more.](#)

Also In This Issue

- Capital Roundup: Climate Change Bill Blocked
- In Your Backyard: Family Business Tax Break Saved
- Join the Conversation: Readers Engage in Tax Debate
- Outrage of the Month: Stressed Over Peanuts
- Point of View: Arizona Immigration Law Costly to Businesses
- Quips: Heard In and About the U.S. Chamber
- Success Insight--a Chamber Member's Story: Business Grows Greener on Farm
- U.S. Chamber Makes Additional 2008 Endorsements
- Chamber Wins on FACTA, IP
- Trade Creates Jobs
- ILR Celebrates 10 Years
- Chamber Elects Don Shepard Chair
- Donohue Is Honored
- Workers' Comp Book Is Available
- Court Delays Immigration Law

In May, we asked for your opinions in our Quick Poll. Here is a brief summary of readers' responses:

- By a large margin, high gasoline prices top the list of immediate concerns.
- Some 71% of respondents said that the credit crunch has not impacted their ability to obtain financing.
- Half of the respondents have volunteered and/or donated to a campaign and contacted their representatives about an issue.
- The majority of respondents do not export their products overseas.

[Read more.](#)

Tech Tools

Upgrades:

Move Forward Smartly

I'm not surprised that many people still haven't migrated to Windows' newest operating system, Vista, with its hefty resource requirements and incompatibility with some software.

What is surprising is that so many who did make the move are reverting back to Windows XP. Companies that are now rolling back have wasted money, time, and resources and will have to repeat the process when XP reaches the end of its useful life.

The rejection of Vista by many of its users underscores the importance of researching, planning, and testing new technology. Here are some tips for each of these elements:

[Read more.](#)

uschamber.com Monthly | Editor In Chief: Gregory S. Galdabini

Your member number is: 5301555. | You are subscribed as: governor@gov.state.ak.us.

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020579

[Log in](#) | [Receive as plain text](#) | [Unsubscribe](#)

You received this message because you are a member of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce, which has partnered with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to bring you additional member benefits, including members-only access to our online Small Business Center, as well as other periodic communications.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is solely responsible for the editorial and advertising content in this newsletter. Advertisements do not constitute endorsement by the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce.

You received this message because you are a member of the Federation Membership Program, which has partnered with the U.S. Chamber of Commerce to bring you additional member benefits, including members-only access to our online Small Business Center, as well as other periodic communications. If you do not wish to receive U.S. Chamber messages related to the partnership, reply to this e-mail with REMOVE as the subject line, or [click here](#). To simply change your e-mail preferences or Small Business Center password, please update your profile on your [Subscription Management Page](#). You must follow these instructions in order to ensure that you are properly removed. For more information about U.S. Chamber member benefits, call our dedicated customer service line at 1-800-638-6582.



9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020580

Unknown

From: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=KYPERRY]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 2:54 AM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'; Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Nizich; Michael A (GOV)
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Hopefully we can provide information in being proactive to show what other Governor's travel has been and w/family. Remember that story not long ago that compared and showed the large difference between Palin and Murkowski? This is so ridiculous. We're talking about a Governor who had the state buy tickets on hotwire saving hundreds of dollars rather than just going w/the norm (much more expensive) or the fact that she often drives to the Peninsula or Fairbanks or the fact that her family rarely travels w/her when most of the invitations are for first family. Not to mention the majority of the time she flies commercial (and not first class!!)

----- Original Message -----

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
To: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)
Cc: Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Sent: Thu Jul 10 02:35:41 2008
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Remind him of the family travels w me that I have personally pd for, including with mileage. Hopefully our records very clearly show that. Also, my return of every per diem offer for everything related to the kids...and we need to be proactive in this issue with reminding him of all the steps taken to save state monies like no Anchorage apartment...no chef... security down from 7 to 2, whatever- I'm sorry you have to deal w this w the FOIA even, I know I'm tired of it already. It is important to know though that probably a week doesn't go by without me asking if all the rules are being followed, if the Palin family is doing everything right with our travel, etc as First Family.

Another significant thing here, to me anyway, was the exclusion of my 17-yr old son (now 19) from all but two First Family events (he traveled to Juneau twice is all in these two yrs and I think I ended up paying for one of the trips myself), I was told it was because he wasn't going to school in Juneau, which never made much sense to me but I didn't argue the fact he is a member of the family too.

Pls show the travels of the previous Govs so he can compare- incl the fact previous Govs took family vacations WITH our security guys so they could take advantage of their rental cars, etc (this is according to Bob and Gary), compare that to me never having done this.

We have to be proactive on this so pls let me know if you need any further info.

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Leighow, Sharon W (GOV)" <sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>
Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:59:38 -0800
To: ExternalEmailgsp<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>
Subject: RE: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor'sfamily

Governor-

Linda Perez and I both spoke with Kyle today. He has filed a public records request for all of your travel and your family's travel. He is really digging into the travel regs. He wants to know where it is spelled out where/when a family member can travel. I told him AGAIN that there is a certain expectation that the First Family make public appearances and participate in community activities as part of protocol. I am blue in the face with this guy! I told him that the Governor receives on average 200 requests each month and more than half extend the invitation to the First Family. I also reminded him that you prefer to travel by car and the kids aren't always with you. Somehow I don't think that will make it in the paper.

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com [mailto:gov.sarah@yahoo.com]
Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 3:36 PM
To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW); Nizich, Michael A (GOV)
Cc: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV); Perry, Kristina Y (GOV); Mason, Janice L (GOV)
Subject: Re: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor'sfamily

I have not been informed of any phone calls to my office. Do u know if I am to return any calls or do anything on this? I sure hope nothing is written that we have to react to,

based on adn having misinformation or not enough info.

BTW, this trip I'm taking to NGA with family is being paid by NGA because it's some annual family-invitation event for the nation's governors. I'm right on that, am I, Kris?

Sent from my BlackBerry device from Cellular One

From: "Colberg, Talis J (LAW)" <talis.colberg@alaska.gov>

Date: Wed, 09 Jul 2008 15:12:21 -0800

To: <gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Subject: FW: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Dear Governor Palin,

I just spoke with Mr. Nizich after I forwarded this to him. He said I should go ahead and let you know directly. He says your office has also received phone inquiries on travel in the last 24 hours from the ADN as well. This is just to give you a fuller picture of what may be happening in the news world. Talis

From: Bockmon, Julia B (LAW)

Sent: Wednesday, July 09, 2008 1:47 PM

To: Colberg, Talis J (LAW)

Cc: Jones, David T (LAW)

Subject: Phone Call from ADN Reporter Kyle Hopkins re travel for governor's family

Importance: High

CONFIDENTIAL - ATTORNEY CLIENT PRIVILEGE

I just returned a phone call from Kyle Hopkins of the Anchorage Daily News who initially was looking for a copy of the 2004 opinion addressing travel on the King Air aircraft. He had located the opinion online just as I called back. He then said he was looking into the question of when a governor's family could travel at state expense and asked whether there was any other opinion on this issue. I advised generally that a family member might travel at state expense if the member was to attend an official function (he said for example the inauguration), and that I could not recall other opinion or guidance on this point.

He then wanted to know whether there was a statute, regulation or other guidance defining what would be an official function or state business. I advised that I was not aware of any. It would likely depend on the circumstance and the involved official's authority. He also asked who would decide and I suggested again it would likely be addressed in the circumstances on a case by case basis by the governor's office.

He did not say or suggest whether he is looking at the question with respect to Governor Palin or a former governor.

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

Judy Bockmon

Assistant Attorney General

Opinions, Appeals & Ethics Section

Alaska Department of Law

907-269-5216

CONFIDENTIALITY NOTICE: This e-mail message and any attachments may contain information considered confidential under the Executive Branch Ethics Act. If you are not an identified recipient or believe you have received this message in error, please notify the sender immediately.

Unknown

From: Ivy Frye [ivyfrye@yahoo.com]

Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 9:19 AM

To: Sarah Palin; Frank Bailey; Kris Perry; Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)

Subject: "State paid tab for Piper Palin flight"

I think Kyle missed the boat completely with his story, but ALL of the comments posted below his story are vindication that this wasn't newsworthy and that he's grasping for straws. (I pasted the story and comments in the body of this email).

In addition to the many things the governor has already pointed out, I think we should still let kyle know that Gov Palin has spend only \$115 k on travel in 20 months--nearly 2 years!! vs. Murkowski's half million in his last 12 months in office! Our governor's travel costs are lower than any other governor in state history and that's straight from an Empire article. The article also compared NGA costs between our governor and murkowski: Gov Palin spent \$1,855 on lodging last year vs. Murkowski's \$6,599 which included a \$937 executive suite! Sharon, here's the link to the empire story from April:

http://www.juneauempire.com/stories/040808/sta_267202920.shtml

State paid tab for Piper Palin flight

\$402: Covering airfare for governor's family is tradition.

By KYLE HOPKINS

khopkins@adn.com

Published: July 10th, 2008 12:18 AM

Last Modified: July 10th, 2008 03:43 AM

When Gov. Sarah Palin's 7-year-old daughter flew to Barrow with her mother recently, the state paid the \$402 bill.

Story tools

Comments

E-mail a friend

Print

Digg this

Seed Newsvine

Send link via AIM

9/18/2009



Yahoo! Buzz

Font size : A | A | A

Spokeswoman Sharon Leighow said the first family was invited to Barrow by the North Slope Borough mayor, and that Palin made the trip with her daughter Piper and 12-week-old son Trig.

"The state pays for family members to travel to official functions when they are included as part of the invitation," Leighow said.

There isn't a specific law or regulation that says the state will pay for family members' travel to events with the governor, but it's become tradition, said Linda Perez, director of administrative services in the governor's office.

"It's pretty much just been the historical practice."

The North Slope Borough sent its King Air to Wasilla pick the governor up the morning of June 30, according to the borough. She flew home that night on Alaska Airlines. Trig's a baby, so he rode for free, while Piper's one-way Alaska Airlines ticket cost \$402, according to the state.

ADVERTISEMENT

☒ Click here to find out more!

It's unclear how many times the state has paid for family members to travel with Palin. Asked for a tally of flights since the governor's inauguration, Perez said Wednesday that it would take time to put the list together.

Leighow said Palin doesn't bring family with her often, but that the state pays when the family's on "official business."

Asked what official business Palin's daughter would have in Barrow, Leighow said she took part in a whaling celebration. On a form requesting the state to pay for the trip, the purpose is listed as "The Governor and First Family will attend the Barrow Whaling Events/Blanket Toss."

The question of who pays for family to travel with an Alaska governor has come up before.

In 2007, Perez told the Daily News that when governors traveled with their spouses, they would normally reimburse the state unless the spouses had official duties to attend to such as first-lady events.

Gov. Frank Murkowski's wife, Nancy, accompanied her husband on scores of trips. The state was reimbursed for only a handful.

"The governor used Mrs. Murkowski as one of his primary and chief advisors ... he treated that as official business," Perez said.

North Slope Borough spokesman David Harding couldn't estimate Wednesday how much it cost

9/18/2009

to send the Borough's King Air -- which is used for search-and-rescue missions, wildlife management and other purposes -- to pick up the governor.

Perez said the cost of that flight will be considered a gift from the borough to the state.

Asked if it's a good use of state money to pay for travel costs for Palin's family members, Leighow said: "There's a certain expectation of the first family. Which includes participating in community activities and making public appearances."

4Thursday, July 10, 2008 - 8:59am | **moosemom**

Good Reporting...NOT!

Stop trying to stir up a controversy with every little tidbit. This isn't news reporting, it's mongering.

3Thursday, July 10, 2008 - 8:48am | **alaskafundraising**

but if our governor had a jet

we wouldnt even be having this conversation it would cost the same no matter how many family members make the trip. Palin is the CEO of the largest state in the union. CEO's are granted certain perks for themselves/family members, there is no story here.

2Thursday, July 10, 2008 - 8:26am | **SOelkers29**

Rabble Rousing Article

This article feels like grasping for straws to me. And if you've ever been to Barrow and participated in the celebrations surrounding the whaling season you'd know that kids are indeed a huge part of the events. I'm sure they were honored that Piper could come and participate. Kyle - spend your time more wisely and ferret out some real news.

1Thursday, July 10, 2008 - 8:17am | **Cama1**

so what is the problem?

I don't have any problem with the Palin family traveling with our lady Governor. Do we need to make a big deal out of this? OK...lets vote..who cares? I don't care. As long as they're not going to Hawaii on vacation (without me) I don't care.

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020587

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 2:17 AM
To: Balash; Joseph R (GOV)
Cc: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV)
Subject: Re: Hickel

Joe:

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted

-----Original Message-----

From: Joe Balash
To: Governor Sarah Palin
Cc: K Perry
Cc: M Nizich
Sent: Jul 9, 2008 11:22 PM
Subject: Hickel

Governor,

Later today (10:00 am AK time), governor hickel is going to hold a press availability and come out strong against awarding a license to transcanada. Backbone is split with most folks on Gottstein's side (and ours).

I imagine we will be pressed by media outlets for a response. Is there anything in particular you would like to convey? I think the story is going to be overshadowed, but we likely can't ignore it. Short and sweet ought to do.

Joe

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

Unknown

From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SWLEIGHOW]

Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 10:59 AM

To: Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'

Subject: Statement - Cowdery

Governor Palin Releases Statement on Cowdery Indictment

July 10, 2008, Anchorage, Alaska --Governor Sarah Plain today released the following statement regarding the indictment against state Senator John Cowdery:

"It was disturbing to learn that another public official has been charged with violating the public trust. I urge Senator Cowdery to step down for the good of the state.

"Today's news is a good reminder that we must continue to be vigilant in defending Alaska's sovereignty against those who would undermine it in an attempt to sell out Alaskans. As we move forward, let me remind everyone that this administration is committed to putting Alaskans and their interests first, as we develop our resources in a responsible and ethical manner.

"We are on the right path. I am confident that path will be made more clear and obstacle-free as justice prevails in the ongoing FBI investigation. Like many Alaskans, I look forward to closure on this disturbing chapter in our state's history."

###

Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

8/24/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020589

Unknown

From: Leighow, Sharon W (GOV) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=SWLEIGHOW]

Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 10:23 AM

To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'; Perry; Kristina Y (GOV)

Subject: Statement on Cowdery

Privileged or Personal Material Redacted



Sharon Leighow
Deputy Press Secretary
Deputy Communications Director

(907) 269-7450 Anchorage
(907) 465-4031 Juneau
(907) 240-7943 cell

8/24/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020590

Unknown

From: gov.sarah@yahoo.com
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 7:39 PM
To: Katz; John W (GOV)
Cc: Balash; Joseph R (GOV); Banks; Kevin R (DNR); Perry; Kristina Y (GOV); Rutherford; Marty K (DNR); Nizich; Michael A (GOV); Galvin; Patrick S (DOR); Hughes; Rosanne D (GOV); Kelly; Russell T (GOV); Leighow; Sharon W (GOV); Irwin; Tom E (DNR)
Subject: Re: Speaker Pelosi/Energy Legislation

Thanks so much for this excellent recap John. Pls let me know when you hear more.

Sent from my BlackBerry® device from Cellular One

-----Original Message-----

From: "John Katz" <jwkatz@ALASKADC.org>

Date: Thu, 10 Jul 2008 14:13:07

To: Sarah Palin, Governor<gov.sarah@yahoo.com>

Cc: Joe Balash (Gov)<joe.balash@alaska.gov>; Kevin Banks (DNR)<kevin.banks@alaska.gov>; Kris Perry (Gov)<kris.perry@alaska.gov>; Marty K Rutherford (DNR)<marty.rutherford@alaska.gov>; Mike Nizich<Mike.Nizich@alaska.gov>; Pat Galvin<patrick_galvin@dnr.state.ak.us>; Rosanne (GOV sponsored) Hughes<rosanne.hughes@alaska.gov>; Russ Kelly<rkelly@ALASKADC.org>; Sharon W (GOV) Leighow<sharon.leighow@alaska.gov>; Tom Irwin<tom.irwin@alaska.gov>

Subject: Speaker Pelosi/Energy Legislation

It is my understanding that Speaker Pelosi was trying to reach you. Accordingly, I wanted you to see the article below concerning her energy proposals. We haven't seen the bill as yet but are trying to get a copy now. Here are a few editorial comments:

The bill would purportedly expedite oil and gas leasing in NPR-A. For the most part, however, the BLM's leasing program there has gone well.

The bill does not deal with ANWR and probably not with OCS leasing in the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas - these being the most prospective areas for oil and gas.

The bill will apparently include a "Use it or lose it" feature mandating activity on existing leases before new leases are issued to a particular company. This is a numbers game which has nothing to do with the realities of oil and gas development.

The bill would reimpose a previous prohibition against Alaska oil exports. However, very little oil has been exported in the last several years. In my opinion, this is an attack on Alaska sovereignty since no similar ban exists for other states.

The bill would supposedly expedite construction of the natural gas pipeline. We will need to see these provisions, but I can't imagine what they might be, as the 2005 legislation was pretty comprehensive. I would be surprised if the "bridge shipper" concept or major changes to the loan guarantee have been included.

The article makes reference to facilitating an oil pipeline. I have no idea what this could be, but we'll check.

The Speaker's proposal is expected to come up on the suspension calendar, which requires a two-thirds vote but means that the bill can't be amended on the House floor. The House Republicans have a domestic production alternative which includes ANWR. (The Senate Republicans' version doesn't include ANWR.)

Previously, neither party has had the votes to move their energy proposals through the process but they have been able to block legislation from the other party. Whether this pattern will continue remains to be seen.

This is a very rough initial reaction. I'll be back to you with more informed analysis once we've seen the legislation.

OIL AND GAS: House Democrats unveil 'production' bill (07/10/2008)

Alex Kaplun, Greenwire reporter

House Democratic leaders said today they plan to bring to the floor next week a "production" energy bill aimed at forcing oil companies to drill on leased lands in the continental United States as well as in Alaska.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California and other top Democrats unveiled a legislative package that would require oil companies to drill on already-leased land before acquiring new leases and require the Bureau of Land Management to offer leases on roughly 20 million acres in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska every year.

The measure would also ban oil companies from exporting oil drilled in Alaska and attempt to speed construction of the Alaska natural gas pipeline and oil pipeline.

The proposal highlights an ongoing philosophical shift among Democrats, who appear to be increasingly willing to back legislation to increase fossil fuel production.

During the press conference, Democrats repeatedly emphasized that they support domestic production, contrary to the claims from the Republican side of the aisle. "Democrats support increasing the domestic production of petroleum and other energy sources," said House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer of Maryland.

Pelosi said she anticipates bringing the bill to the floor under suspension, possibly as soon as next week. That move would require approval of two-thirds of the House but would also preclude consideration of Republican amendments to allow more drilling offshore or in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

"We work very hard to build consensus," Pelosi said in response to questions about how Democrats were planning to move the bill. "When we get it, we try to move forward."

Republicans, meanwhile, are continuing to press Pelosi to allow a vote on expanding offshore drilling. Democrats have shelved work on spending bills because GOP members are pushing for committee votes on drilling amendments.

"That should be debated vigorously in Congress, but it should be debated on the House floor, not just something we talk about on talk shows," Rep. Jack Kingston (R-Ga.) said at an Appropriations Committee oversight hearing on commodity markets today.

"Why should we blame our prices on someone else when we are unwilling to drill and unwilling to build refineries?" Kingston asked.

'A hoax'

But Pelosi and other top Democrats brushed aside such suggestions, saying their legislation would offer Republicans an opportunity to support increased domestic production.

"This call for drilling in areas that are protected is a hoax," Pelosi said. "If they want to drill ... we support the drilling."

Pelosi and other Democrats maintain there is little likelihood that increased domestic production will have a substantial impact on prices in the short run. Instead, Pelosi said she would continue to press the White House to release oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR), saying such a move is the single most significant thing that could be done in the near term.

"It's the fastest thing we can do -- taking oil out of the SPR in a strategic, responsible way is the fastest thing we can do to lower prices at the pump," she said.

Pelosi also said she expects to bring to the floor soon separate legislation dealing with energy market speculation.

Senior reporter Ben Geman contributed to this report.

John W. Katz

Director of State/Federal Relations

and Special Counsel to the Governor

jwkatz@alaskadc.org

(202) 624-5858

Unknown

From: Colberg, Talis J (LAW) [/O=SOA/OU=FIRST ADMINISTRATIVE
GROUP/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=TJCOLBERG]
Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 10:19 AM
To: 'gov.sarah@yahoo.com'
Subject: Cowdery.

Dear governor palin. The federal government formally filed bribery charges against
cowdery this morning. The charges name senator a and b as well. A is described in such a
way as it could be Olson. TALIS.

Unknown

From: Whitfield, James (HHS/OS) [James.Whitfield@HHS.GOV]

Sent: Thursday, July 10, 2008 3:01 PM

To: Mason; Janice L (GOV)

Cc: Governor Sarah Palin (GOV sponsored)

Subject: Meeting with HHS Secretary Mike Leavitt 7/22 4:30 pm

Janice,

Per our discussion yesterday, Secretary Leavitt will be doing some meetings and site visits in Alaska July 22, 23, and 24. We are hoping to schedule a meeting between the Secretary and the Governor while he is there. He can be in Juneau for meetings, if that works best for the Governor. Given previously expressed concerns about early morning availability, the Secretary's current schedule has him available in Juneau at 4:30 for an hour. The format of the meeting would be an informal discussion regarding health care reform issues and any other issues that the Governor may be interested in. The Secretary would also like to publicly convey an award to the Governor for Alaska being one of the winners of the President's Fitness Challenge (<http://www.hhs.gov/news/press/2008pres/06/20080610d.html>). This could be done in the Governor's office building at 5:00 with interested, participants, staff and invited media, if the governor desires.

There is still a small amount of flexibility in the Secretary's schedule on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th both in Juneau and Anchorage, so please feel free to make suggestions about times that might better work for the Governor. I can be reached most readily at 206/788-6465.

Thank you.

James Whitfield
U.S. Department of Health & Human Services
James.Whitfield@HHS.gov

9/18/2009

PRA_GSP01_0020595